

Docket No.: 4541-004

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of :

Koji HIROKAWA :

Serial No. Not yet assigned :

Filed: January 3, 2002 :

For: DISINTEGRATIVE CORE FOR HIGH PRESSURE CASTING, METHOD FOR  
MANUFACTURING THE SAME, AND METHOD FOR EXTRACTING THE SAME

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the  
application:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 4 to 8 as follows:

4. (Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the water-soluble salt is melted at a temperature higher by 30 ~ 80 °C than that of its melting temperature and solidified in a mold.

5. (Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the mold is made of graphite and heated to half of the melting temperature of the salt.

6. (Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the water-soluble salt is processed into a powder with a particle size of 40 ~ 100 μm, introduced into the mold and molded under a pressure of 80 ~ 100 Mpa.